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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: William John Curatolo, et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/380,885

FILED: September 7, 1999

FOR: Delayed-Release Dosage Forms of  
Sertraline

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Examiner: S. Sharareh  
Art Unit: 1619

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By [Signature]

Dear Sir:

Response Under Rule 111

This is in response to the Office Action of December 26, 2000 in the  
above-identified application, the term for response having been extended three  
(3) months by including the appropriate fee and petition herewith.

In response to the Office Action, the Examiner is respectfully requested to  
reconsider all rejections in light of the following comments.

Remarks

The Examiner continues to maintain the rejection of claims 1, 6, 9-11, and  
14 over Ranade, US 4,803,076. The Examiner stated the following, in pertinent  
part:

Applicant argues that Ranade teaches devices exhibiting delayed  
release, and that Ranade's device exhibits first order sustained release of  
sertraline. Applicant also argues that Ranade does not teach a controlled  
release device that exhibits delayed release followed by immediate  
release.

In response Examiner draws attention to the recitation of claim 1.  
The instant claims are directed to a delayed dosage form comprising  
sertraline and an acceptable carrier. There is no indication or limitations  
for first or zero order kinetics or release of sertraline. Ranade discloses